

CONFIDENTIALOLL/LD
INCOMING

/ /

FRP: .2,3,

25X1

84 6015170 SCR

PAGE 001
TOR: 210749Z DEC 84

NC 6015170

25X1

RR RUEAIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
STU4296
RR RUEHC
DE RUEHNE #8412 3560734
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 210733Z DEC 84
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9202
INFO RUFHOM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 2398
RUMUDK/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 4821
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 1557
RUMUHT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 2120
ZEN/AMEMBASSY KABUL POUCH
RUSBAY/AMCONSUL BOMBAY 6061
RUEHCL/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA 5628
RUEHMR/AMCONSUL MADRAS 4736
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 28412

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, IN, PK
SUBJECT: PRIORITY PREOCCUPATIONS OF THE GOI

1. WHEN AMBASSADOR SAW PRIME MINISTER GANDHI'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARY P. C. ALEXANDER DECEMBER 20 AND ASKED ABOUT LIKELY PREOCCUPATIONS OF A NEW RAJIV GANDHI ADMINISTRATION, ALEXANDER REPLIED THAT ALL THE ATTENTION HAS BEEN ON DOMESTIC MATTERS. IN PARTICULAR HE CITED THE BUDGET AND THE MARCH APRIL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS IN A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT STATES, WHICH WILL REQUIRE A FAIR AMOUNT OF CAMPAIGNING BY THE PRIME MINISTER.

2. WITH REGARD TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ALEXANDER EXPECTED RELATIONSHIPS WITH MOST COUNTRIES TO REMAIN PRETTY MUCH THE SAME WITH PERHAPS ONLY SOME SLIGHT VARIATIONS. THE AMBASSADOR RECALLED THE INTEREST EXPRESSED BY THE PRIME MINISTER IN THE AFGHAN PROBLEM WHEN HE MET WITH CODEL MANN (NEW DELHI 27908) AND SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE THAT FURTHER AFTER THE NEW GOVERNMENT IS FORMED. IN THAT CONTEXT AMBASSADOR ALSO REMINDED ALEXANDER OF THE INCREASED PRESSURE ON PAKISTAN'S WESTERN BORDER IN RECENT MONTHS AND SAID THE U.S. WOULD BE NEEDING TO RESPOND TO PAKISTANI REQUESTS FOR INCREASED ASSISTANCE IN THAT CONTEXT. ALEXANDER'S ONLY COMMENT WAS TO ASK IF THERE WERE FRESH PAKISTANI REQUESTS, TO WHICH THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE HAD IN MIND ONLY THOSE WHICH HAD BEEN RAISED EARLIER IN THE FALL.
BARNES
END OF MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL

State Dept. review completed

CONFIDENTIAL